

**Applicant Name** Tri County Water and Sewer District  
**Project Name** Tri County Water System Improvements

### **Project Abstract**

The Tri County Water and Sewer District is located in portions of Teton, Cascade, and Chouteau counties. The district is a rural service area of approximately 95,000 acres and serves approximately 450 people. The district's water system was constructed in 1982 and consists of 218 miles of water mains, a single supply source, and a storage tank.

A second water supply is needed to provide redundancy. Redundancy will provide protection against contamination of the only source and also meet system demands should one source be out of service. An improved source is also needed to ensure the district is not left without water during droughts.

The existing distribution system is undersized for peak demands and operating pressures do not meet minimum required pressures for all portions of the distribution system. As a result, portions of the system run out of water completely during peak demand periods.

The proposed project will construct an additional infiltration gallery, wet well, and pump house to provide the district with additional supply capacity and also provide a redundant water supply. In addition, approximately 20,000 lineal feet of undersized distribution system piping will be replaced and a new booster pump station added.

Replacement of a portion of the distribution system will allow the system to operate more efficiently, resulting in energy conservation. The piping improvements will also allow the district to provide water to all users during peak demand periods, which will aid in its management of the resource. These improvements will also preserve the renewable resource benefits that the water system currently provides. Construction of a new water supply will develop and expand the utilization of a natural resource.

The project will solve serious health and safety problems and enhance the common well-being of Montanans through the conservation, management, development, and preservation of water, a renewable resource.